

Serial No.: 09/992,024

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1 (Currently Amended). A transmission method for operating on information
2 which is transmitted through a medium and comprises main data which are to be
3 transmitted, the method comprising the steps of:
4 detecting medium protection data which are specific to said medium and are
5 also transmitted through said medium;
6 generating additional protection data which comprise at least first additional
7 protection data and second additional protection data,
8 wherein said first additional protection data are specific to a region or a
9 country in which said main data are to be transmitted, and can not be modified by a
10 recipient of said transmitted main data, and wherein said second additional protection
11 data can be modified by the recipient to selectively define a plurality of protection
12 levels including at least two levels which are respectively specific to adults and to
13 children;
14 defining a protection level based on said medium protection data and said
15 additional protection data in combination; and
16 executing transmission of said main data in accordance with said protection
17 level,

Serial No.: 09/992,024

18 wherein the combination of said medium protection data and said first
19 additional protection data specifies that said main data are transmitted either in their
20 entirety or not at all, and the combination of said medium protection data and said
21 second additional protection data specifies that said main data are transmitted in their
22 entirety, partially, or not at all,

23 wherein, for each combination of protection levels based on said medium
24 protection data and said ~~apparatus~~ additional protection data, there is a corresponding
25 range of one or more possible values of final protection level, said corresponding
26 range extending from a least severe value to a most severe value.

1 2 (Currently Amended). The transmission method as recited in claim 1,
2 wherein said medium transmits both said medium protection data and said main data
3 in an identical form.

1 3 (Currently Amended). The transmission method as recited in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of transmitting both said medium protection data and said main
3 data through said medium in an identical form.

1 4 (Original). The transmission method as recited in claim 1, wherein said step
2 of executing transmission of said main data comprises:

Serial No.: 09/992,024

3 transmitting said main data either in their entirety or not at all, in accordance
4 with said combination of said medium protection data and said first additional
5 protection data, and
6 transmitting said main data in their entirety, partially, or not at all, in
7 accordance with said combination of said medium protection data and said second
8 additional protection data.